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Lake Fact Sheet – Parry Sound District

Lake Vernon

Location	
Official Name:.....	Lake Vernon Local Names:.....
County/District:.....	Muskoka Geographic Twp:..... Stisted, Chaffey
Municipality:.....	Town of Huntsville MNR Admin. Area:..... Bracebridge
Lat./Long:.....	45.328 N 79.294 W UTM (NAD83):..... 17 633675 5020840
Topographic Map (1:50,000):.....	31E06 Drainage Basin:..... North Muskoka River

Physical Features		
Surface Area (ha):.....	1566 Maximum Depth (m):.....	38 Mean Depth (m):.....
Elevation (m asl):.....	284 Perimeter (km):.....	43 Island Shoreline (km):.....
Volume (10 ⁴ m ³):.....	21924 Watershed (km ²):.....	1112 Water Clarity (m):.....
	(excludes area of lake)	3.2

Land Use and Development	
Crown Land (%):.....	0 Provincial Parks:..... none
Shoreline Development:.....	intense; urban, commercial, shoreline residential
Access:.....	public; Hutcheson Beach Road and, Muskoka River in Huntsville
Water Level Management:.....	regulated; water level is controlled by an MNR owned and operated dam on the North Muskoka River downstream of Fairy Lake: water levels for governed by the Muskoka River Water Management Plan

Fish Species	
Major Fish Species:.....	lake trout (S), walleye (I 2000), northern pike (I 1980's) smallmouth bass (I 1912), largemouth bass (I 1969), black crappie (I 2007)
Other Fish Species:.....	brown bullhead, white sucker, brook trout (E), cisco (E), lake whitefish (E) common shiner, spottail shiner, bluntnose minnow, golden shiner, blacknose shiner, pumpkinseed yellow perch, longnose sucker, rock bass (I), lake chub, trout-perch, rainbow smelt (I 1950s)
Other Species:.....	spiny water flea (I 1991)

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Notes: E: extirpated, I: introduced – intentional or accidental, O: occasional, R: remnant, S: currently stocked, ?: status uncertain, 2009: year of first record or introduction if known, blank: presumed native

Fisheries Management

Fisheries Management Zone: 15

Designation for Lake Trout Management: designated; put-grow-take; not at development capacity

Fishing Regulation Exceptions no lake-specific exceptions

Current Stocking:..... lake trout; stocked on a put-grow-take basis biennially with yearlings

Historic Stocking (last year stocked):..... smallmouth bass (1922), rainbow trout (1973), brook trout (1959)

Contaminants (species tested): lake trout, northern pike, walleye, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, rock bass, pumpkinseed

Assessment:

Completed Projects:

1969	lake survey
1977	contaminant sampling
1987	lake trout spawning observations
1992	northern pike spawning observations
1996	Spring Littoral Index Netting (lake trout)
2004	Summer Profundal Index Netting (lake trout)
2007	Fall Walleye Index Netting
2008	winter creel survey
2009	Huntsville lakes management review

Water chemistry profiles are collected on a regular basis

Synopsis

The native fish community of Lake Vernon was dominated by lake trout, lake whitefish and cisco. Brook trout probably were common as well. A long series of introductions of non-native species, intentional and otherwise have transformed the community. Lake trout are currently maintained by stocking, whitefish, cisco and brook trout are extirpated and warm water species such as bass, pike and walleye now dominate the lake. The walleye population is the most recent arrival. It is expected that the population will expand, as the lake provides good habitat for this species. The creel survey conducted in the winter of 2008 found that fishing pressure is very low. Summer effort is probably higher but has not been quantified.

A review of fisheries management in the Huntsville Lakes, including Lake Vernon, was done in 2009. A copy may be obtained on request from the Bracebridge MNR office. Of the four lakes, Vernon probably has the lowest potential for rehabilitation of the lake trout population so initial efforts are being directed elsewhere (i.e. Mary Lake). Vernon will continue to be stocked on a put-grow-take basis in the interim.

Updated: 2021

Refer to Lake Fact Background Information document for explanation of content.

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